

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Noriaki TAKAICHI

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW

Docket No. 2001-1772A

Filed November 30, 2001

DISK MEMORY DEVICE, DATA  
PREREADING METHOD, AND  
RECORDING MEDIA

[Corresponding to PCT/JP01/02735  
Filed March 30, 2001]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

A | 4. (Amended) A disk memory device as defined in Claim 2, wherein:  
the prereading rule holding means holds a plurality of prereading rules; and  
when there are a prereading rule decided by the prereading rule decision means and a  
prereading rule which has been employed immediately before the decided prereading rule and,  
further, the prereading directions of these prereading rules are the same, the prereading area  
decision means decides the position and size of data to be preread on the disk memory medium by  
employing both of the prereading rules in combination.

5. (Amended) A disk memory device as defined in Claim 1, further comprising: